

## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /005 R

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INFO RUESGT/AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY 3725

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 164633

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WITH INFO BOGOTA CARACAS AND SAN JOSE  
FROM BRASILIA DATED 16 AUG 73 REPEATED YOU:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 5279

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR OAS CU VE BR

SUBJECT: VENEZUELAN INITIATIVE ON CUBA - "COSTA RICAN INITIATIVE

REF: STATE 161341, BRASILIA 5220

1. IN EXTENDED CONVERSATION WITH CHIEF OF THE FOREIGN  
MINISTRY'S DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS  
(MINISTER PAULO PADILHA VIDAL) AND WITH CHIEF OF OAS  
DIVISION (COUNSELOR ASBRUBAL ULYSSEA), FOLLOWING POINTS  
OF INTEREST EMERGED:

(A) BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR TO COSTA RICA HAS BEEN  
INSTRUCTED TO CONVEY GOB VIEWS ON VENEZUELAN INITIATIVE  
TO FOREIGN MINISTER FACIO. BRAZILIAN AMBASSADOR  
DESCRIBED AS HIGHLY COMPETENT WOMAN ON VERY FRIENDLY  
TERMS WITH FACIO. IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE 159481,  
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RESERVED NATURE OF DETAILS OF COSTA RICAN "INITIATIVE"

AND DESIRABILITY OF NOT REVEALING OUR DISCUSSIONS TO THIRD COUNTRIES WERE POINTED OUT.

(B) BRAZILIAN EMBASSY IN BOGOTA IS ATTEMPTING TO TAKE DISCREET SOUNDINGS ON COLOMBIAN POSITION BUT WILL NOT MAKE DEMARCHE TO FOREIGN MINISTER VASQUEZ CARRIZOSA WHO THEY CONSIDER FAVORS LIFTING OF SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA. THEY BELIEVE STRONG POINT IN COLOMBIA IS COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT WHO IS MUCH MORE CONSERVATIVE AND JURIDICAL IN HIS APPROACH. IN ADDITION, SINCE FOREIGN MINISTER GIBSON BARBOZA MADE STRONG PRESENTATION OF BRAZILIAN POSITION TO BOTH DURING RECENT VISIT, THEY SEE NO NEED TO REITERATE THEIR VIEWS.

(C) BRAZIL ALSO CONSIDERS COLOMBIAN SUPPORT FOR VENEZUELAN FORMULA AS NOT CERTAIN EXCEPT FOR THEIR DISTRUST OF VASQUEZ CARRIZOSA. THEY CONSIDER GOC JURIDICALLY MINDED AND CANNOT CONCEIVE OF COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT WISHING COLOMBIA TO BE HIGHLIGHTED AS TWELFTH VOTE WHICH SWUNG OAS IN FAVOR OF LIFTING SANCTIONS.

(C) U.S. POSITION IS CONSIDERED IDENTICAL TO THAT OF GOB. THEY AGREE FULLY WITH OUR JURIDICAL ARGUMENTS ON "COSTA RICAN INITIATIVE" CONVEYED REFTEL. THEY CONSIDER "MEXICAN ROLE" MENTIONED PARAGRAPH 4 REFTEL "ABSOLUTELY RIDICULOUS." THEY OF COURSE AGREE WITH OUR VIEWS ON VENEZUELAN PROPOSAL.

(E) FROM BRAZILIAN STANDPOINT, PRIMARY OBJECTIVE SHOULD BE TO DISCOURAGE VENEZUELAN PROPOSAL SINCE EVEN IF IT IS VOTED DOWN, THEY FEAR A FURTHER DEGRADATION OF HEMISPHERIC POSITIONS ON MAINTENANCE OF SANCTIONS. COSTA RICAN "INITIATIVE" HAS ADDITIONAL DISADVANTAGE OF PLACING ISSUE BEFORE APPROPRIATE ORGAN WHICH CANNOT BE OPPOSED TACTICALLY.

2. IT IS PERSONAL VIEW OF PADILHA VIDAL THAT DANGER POINT LIES WITH CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY SALVADOR, HONDURAS AND NICARAGUA. "COSTA RICAN INITIATIVE" HAS REINFORCED THIS VIEW. HE BELIEVES IT ENTIRELY LIKELY THAT IF VENEZUELAN PROPOSAL MADE IN ITS PRESENT FORM, "SMALL NATION MENTALITY" OF COSTA RICA WOULD PROVIDE IRRESISTIBLE IMPULSE TO PRESENT MORE JURIDICALLY ATTRACTIVE ALTERNATIVE. IN ADDITION TO EGO TRIP FOR FACIO, THIS WOULD ENHANCE  
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COSTA RICAN IMAGE WITHIN OAS IN SENSE OF CONSTRUCTIVE CONTRIBUTION ON PART OF SMALL POWER TO EFFICACY OF ORGANIZATION. THE FACT THAT ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE PRESENTED BY CENTRAL AMERICAN NATION, HE THOUGHT, COULD POSSIBLY SWAY OTHER CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES.

3. PADILHA VIDAL ADMITTED THAT HE MIGHT BE WRONG ABOUT THREE COUNTRIES MENTIONED ABOVE. FOR INSTANCE, ACTING

FOREIGN MINISTER CARVALHO E SILVA DOES NOT AGREE WITH HIM, AT LEAST WITH REGARD TO NICARAGUA. VIDAL STATED THAT HIS VIEWS WERE INFLUENCED BY "PARLIAMENTARY IMPRESSIONS" RECEIVED DURING THE LIMA MEETING, BOTH DURING FORMAL DEBATE AND CORRIDOR TALK. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT CUBAN ASSISTANCE TO NICARAGUA AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE WAS BOTH DRAMATIC AND HIGHLY APPRECIATED. IN HIS VIEW, US SHOULD TAKE "VERY DISCREET SOUNDINGS" TO DETERMINE CURRENT POSITIONS OF SALVADOR, HONDURAS AND NICARAGUA.

4. BRAZILIAN ARE HIGHLY PLEASED WITH OUR CONSULTATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT. THEY WILL KEEP US INFORMED ON THEIR ACTIONS AS DATA BECOMES AVAILABLE.  
CRIMMINS

UNQUOTE  
ROGERS

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